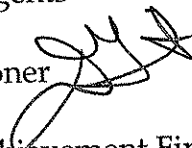


State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

Enclosure 7c
September 1, 2011

September 1, 2011

TO: Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 
RE: Preliminary Approval of Achievement First Mayoral Academies

I present for your consideration a recommendation to grant preliminary approval to the Achievement First Mayoral Academies (AFMA) project.

The AFMA proposed charter was submitted to you on March 1, 2011, and RIDE has reviewed the proposal in accordance with our charter-application review process.

Following thorough review by RIDE, we have concluded that the AFMA proposal has sufficient merit for preliminary approval. This approval is an endorsement of the conceptual design of the school and does not imply a readiness to begin operation. The school must meet the requirements provided under C-1-4 of the Board of Regents Regulations Governing Rhode Island Public Charter Schools and the statutory provisions relating to Mayoral Academies pursuant to Chapter 16-77.4 in order to receive final approval by the Board of Regents to open in the 2012-13 school year.

Therefore, I RECOMMEND THAT, the Rhode Island Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education grant preliminary approval for further planning and development to Achievement First Mayoral Academies toward a 2012-13 school year opening, contingent upon final approval to operate by the Board of Regents.